REGULATING THE CHINESE.

Intervention by the Powers In Their In ternal Affairs.

Special correspondence of The Florida Star. WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.-It has been constantly and repeatedly declared ever since the opening of the Chinese question that the hostilities carried on there between the land and naval forces of the allied powers and those of China could not be construed as constituting, strictly speaking, acts of war, but that they were simply "measures of police" resorted to by the respective foreign governments in order to afford protection to their subjects.

whose lives have been jeopardized in

consequence of the internal troubles in

the dominions of the Chinese empire. This view is based on the theory that according to the principles of the law of nations when a state is unable to protect the lives and safeguard the inthe latter are entitled to afford protection by dispatching troops to such dising the sovereign power to restore order within its dominions. But then a question arises whether, in the event of the troops of the intervening powers in the performance of that so called police duty encountering opposition, instead of receiving assistance, from the forces of such state and consequently liating or, to adopt the technical expresa regular warfare resulting between the land and naval forces of both parties, that condition does not constitute a state of war, though a formal declaration has not been made by either side. That such a condition exists in the present case there cannot be a shadow of doubt in the minds of well thinking people and especially of those acquainted with the usages of the law of nations. In fact from the very day the land and naval forces of the allied powers were attacked by or attacked those of China a regular state of war existed according to the elementary rules of international law. From the moment the forces of the allied powers dispatched to the rescue of their representatives and other subjects in Peking encountered opposition from those of China, as in Taku and elsewhere, a state of belligerency has been created notwithstanding the denials and the conflicting statements made by the various foreign secretaries of the allied powers. Again, from the very day that there was clear evidence justifying the belief that the Chinese government was responsible for the interruption of free communication between the diplomatic agents of the foreign powers and their respective governments, from that very instant the emperor of China committed an unfriendly act justifying the allied powers to consider the former as a belligerent and take such measures as the circumstances required.

On the other hand, the interdiction by Germany to the Chinese minister at Berlin to communicate with his government, the prohibition of munitions of war destined to China by France and, have been maltreated are entitled to other powers, not to say anything of the peculiar declaration of the czar that lives of their citizens and even declare the Chinese province of Amur "is to be considered as being in a state of war." and similar other measures, would undoubtedly constitute in ordinary circumstances acts of war which no self respecting sovereign state would have tolerated for a moment. Of this there can be no doubt as far as the principles of the law of nations are concerned. But in their dealings with the sick man either of the near or of the far east the powers deviate usually from that rule, though they solemnly admitted these Asiatic states-i. e., Turkey and China-into the so called family of nations.

And now what are in fact the grounds upon which the allied powers base their armed intervention? The first reasons which prompted the powers to resort to intervention were the imminent danger to the lives of their representatives and subjects resulting from the so called Boxer troubles in the capital of the empire and in some provinces.

The person of the envoy was considered sacred even in ancient times, though examples of the violation of that rule are not rare. But in modern times all that has been changed and the representatives of a state have generally little reason to complain of the consideration they receive by most of the governments of the civilized and even uncivilized nations. Not only the person of the envoy is considered saered, but his residence-i. e., the legation building, according to the fiction of exterritoriality, is held to be as part and parcel of the territory of the foreign state. Consequently any attempt to enter it forcibly (except in special and Tar, as it is positively absolutely and cases, such as the guilt of the envoy in unqualifiedly the best cough medicine. conspiring to overthrow the govern. Accept no substitute. Wilson & Son. ment to which he is accredited, and the like) is held to be an infringement of the law of nations, and it furnishes to the offended state a casus belli. In the same way every representative enjoys the primordial right to communicate freely with his government.

Therefore, independently of any other grievances that the allied powers may have against China, that simple fact of the willful interruption of communication between the foreign envoys and their respective governments would constitute in itself a casus

belli which the powers would have been justified in resenting by war. As Secretary Hay, in his dispatch of July 30th last to the Chinese government, well observed, "free communication is demanded as a matter of absolute right and not as a favor, and the Chinese government, possessing the power to give such communication, puts itself in an unfriendly attitude by denying

Another question arises whether the powers would have been justified in sacrificing the lives of their representatives, even if it were certain that the Chinese government would have put into execution its threat to murder their envoys in case the forces of the allies should advance toward the Celestian capital. In short, can a state waive its treaty or other rights simply because another power threatens to out to death the representatives of the former in order to compel such state to accept its views?

This question may be safely answered in the negative, notwithstanding terests of subjects of foreign powers the certainty of the sacrifice of the lives of the envoys. Between sacrificing the interests of the state in general turbed places with the object of help- and that of certain of its subjects, no matter how exalted the position which they occupy and how precious their lives may be, the choice would undoubtedly fall to the latter.

> It may be again asked whether the allied powers would have been justifled under the circumstances in retalsion, in resorting to reprisals against the very persons of the Chinese diplomatic agents abroad. In a word, can the various governments in their turn imprison, maltreat or massacre the Chinese representatives in the event of its being proved that the central authorities at Peking were guilty of preventing the envoys from communicating with their governments and of approving or countenancing such acts committed by insurgents or its subordinate authorities? Now as to the first -i. e., imprisonment, interruption of free communication and the like-some modern authorities of the law of nations seem to favor such reprisals as a measure not incompatible with the principles of justice. Among them the eminent continental writer Blunschli sanctions such a proceeding in order, as he says, to show to the other party the injustice of its own conduct. scribed lands, to-wit: The same authority and Phillimore, among others, consider that such acts as above described committed against the person of an envoy are of international concern and that they may be treated as an offense against all nations and in general a violation of the rules of international law.

The other ground of intervention as above alluded to is the lack of protection afforded by the Chinese government to foreign subjects in general and the consequent massacres of numerous missionaries and others. When a state is either utterly incapable of extending or unwilling to afford its protection to aliens who reside in her territory by virtue of treaty right or otherwise, the powers whose subjects take all measures in order to save the war should such measures not appear to be effective. But supposing the people who have been so ill treated are subjects of that very offending state, but are connected with the foreign powers by the similarity of faith, it may be asked whether in such a case the foreign powers would have any right to intervene in the internal affairs of such state. In a word, if the Boxers or the Chinese in general were limiting their sphere of action to the massacre of Christian Chinese only, as the Turks did during their last exploits with the Armenians, could the allied powers resort to intervention?

Intervention on grounds of religious persecution is not sanctioned by the majority of the authorities on international laws unless such persecution degenerates into massacres and such acts of vandalism. On the other hand, many ancient and modern writers advocate intervention on grounds of humanity independently of any racial than ever before, and we would urge them affinities or religious connections. Grotius is of opinion that when a state violates the laws of humanity it is not only the right but the duty of the other states to punish such guilty party, because states ought to see "that the social law is not violated by any

Therefore it may be safely said that the intervention by the allied powers in China is justified for various reasons, and in so doing they act according to the admitted rules of the law THEODORE P. ION. of nations.

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Thirty days after this date I will, on behalf of the state of Florida, execute a tax deed to Jerry Smith for the following described land, to-wit:

Lot 25, Joynerville addition to Titusville. section 3, township 22 south, range 35 east, sold for taxes July 4th, 1898, unless good cause be shown to me on or before September 11th, 1900, why I should not issue said deed. This August 10th, 1900.

A. A. STEWART, SEAL CT. CT Clerk of Circuit Court Brevard County, Florida.

NOTICE.

To all whom it may concern:

Thirty days after this date I will, on behalf of the state of Florida, execute tax deeds to Fletcher Russell for the following de-

South part lot 3, section 18, township 36 south, range 41 east, containing 44 acres. Also part lot 3, described deed book "C," page 483, section 18, township 36 south, range 41 east, containing 12 acres, sold for taxes on July 4th, 1898, and July 5th, 1897, respectively; unlest good cause be shown to me on or before September 11th, 1900, why I should not issue said deeds.

This August 10th, 1900.

SEAL. A. A. STEWART, Clerk of Circuit Court Brevard County.

Special Master's Sale.

Under and by virtue of a final decree issued out of the circuit court in and for Brevard county, Florida, wherein C. A. Robinson is complainant, and Amy R. Shaver, et al, are defendants, I will sell at public auction for eash at C. A. Robinson's, at Eden, in Brevard county, Florida, on the first Monday in October, A. D. 1900, to the highest and best bidder, all the following personal property belonging to said Amy R. Shaver, and in the possession of C. A. Robinson, to-wit:

Ten pieces of upholstered furniture; one piece of upholstered rocker; six rocking chairs; four center tables; one secretary and book case; seven upholstered dining room chairs; one sideboard; one extension dining table; one lot of dishes and waiter; one steel range; one kitchen table; one hall rack; one angle lamp; two large pitchers; two sets of andirons; five bedroom sets, three pieces each; three toilet sets; three rockers and three cane chairs; two sets portiers; three rugs and one lot of matting; one lot of carpets; two carpet sweepers; one lot of laundry utensils; one lot of window shades; or so much thereof as will be necessary to satisfy said decree and costs. WM. F. RICHARDS,

Special Master in Chancery. Titusville, Fla., Aug. 16th, 1900.

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